

## Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 HA-05 PM-05  
NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 DODE-00  
VO-05 CA-01 /095 W  
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R 050939Z JUN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8723  
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA  
USINT BAGHDAD  
AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
USMISSION GENEVA  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
USLO PEKING

S E C R E T TEHRAN 05345

E.O. 11652: XGDS-4  
TAGS/ PINT, SHUM, IR, IZ  
SUBJ: KUDS: BARZANI FORCES STILL SQUEEZED

REF: A. TEHRAN 1267 (NOTAL), B. STATE 134117 (NOTAL),  
C. MOSCOW 1108 (NOTAL)

SUMMARY: KURDISH REPRESENTATIVE ALI-SULAIMAN BRIEFED EMBOFF  
ON KDP SITUATION IN IRAQ, WHERE PARTY STILL ON SIDELINES WITH  
SOME OF ITS FORCES FIGHTING UNDER TALABANI. INFORMED EMBASSY  
THAT IDRIS BARZANI WANTS TO TRAVEL TO U.S. AND EXPECTS RECEIVE  
PERMISSION FROM IRANIAN AUTHORITIES MOMENTARILY. KDP HERE  
EXPECTING U.S. WILL TAKE 300 TO 600 KURDISH IMMIGRANTS THIS  
YEAR; WEST GERMANS HAVE SAID THEY WILL TAKE AN ADDITIONAL 100  
KURDISH REFUGEES. END SUMMARY.

1. KDP REPRESENTATIVE ALI-SULAIMAN CALLED ON EMBOFF AT HIS  
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REQUEST TO REVIEW KURDISH SITUATION SINCE LAST MEETING (REF A)  
AND INFORM US THAT IDRIS BARZANI WOULD BE PRESENTING HIS PASS-  
PORT FOR VISA (UNDER USUAL ASSUMED NAME OF IDRIS IRANI) TO  
VISIT HIS FATHER IN U.S. PER REF B. ALI-SULAIMAN SAID SAVAK  
HAD TOLD HIM APPROVAL FOR TRIP WOULD BE FORTHCOMING SHORTLY.  
PASSPORT WILL BE SENT TO EMB FOR VISA WHEN READY.

2. KDP REP SAID BARZANI FORCES STILL SQUEEZED OUT OF MAIN ACTION IN IRAQ AND SOME BARZANI UNITS ARE NOW FIGHTING WITH TALABANI FACTION, WHICH IS RECEIVING EXTENSIVE SUPPORT FROM CHINA. KDP REP SAID HIS FORCES THOUGHT SOVIETS WERE AIDING TALABANI, BUT HAVE ACQUIRED RECENT EVIDENCE THAT SHOWS TALABANI IS CLOSE TO CHINESE, WHO HAVE STARTED TO PROVIDE SOME ASSISTANCE. AT LEAST SOME OF THIS ASSISTANCE IS SOVIET-MADE.

3. OVER PAST TWO MONTHS, IRAQI ARMY HAS BEEN EVACUATING KURDS FROM 20-MILE STRIP NEXT TO IRAQI BORDERS WITH IRAN AND TURKEY. PROCESS INVOLVES ABOUT 500,000 PEOPLE BEING RESETTLED. SULAIMAN CITED PUSHDA (PHONETIC) TRIBE OF ABOUT 2,000 FAMILIES WHICH HAD BEEN ALIGNED WITH IRAQI GOVT AND WAS NEVERTHELESS BEING MOVED FROM KALAADZA REGION TO ARBIL.

4. AROUND HAJIUMRAN, ABOUT 100 PESH MERGA (BARZANI FIGHTERS) HAVE GONE OVER TO TALABANI FORCES COMPLETELY, AND BARZANI GROUP IN IRAN IS SOMEWHAT DISPIRITED THAT STUDENTS AND YOUNGER MEN ARE SHOWING MUCH MORE ENTHUSIASM FOR LEFT-WING LEADERS LIKE ALI ASCARI AND TAHIR ALIWALI, WHO ARE ESTABLISHING LARGE GROUP (INCLUDING 500 PESH MERGA) STRADDLING IRAN-IRAQ-TURKEY BORDER. TALABANI HIMSELF HAS TAKEN FORCE TO REGION NEAR SULAIMANYA.

5. IRANIAN AUTHORITIES ARE STILL CONTROLLING IRAN-IRAQ  
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BORDER VERY STRICTLY, AND ALI-SULAIMAN LEFT IMPRESSION WITHOUT SAYING SO THAT BARZANI GROUP IN IRAN HAD NOT ATTEMPTED ANY LARGE-SCALE SMUGGLING OF FIGHTERS AND WEAPONS ACROSS BORDER IN RECENT PAST. (COMMENT: ONE REASON FOR IDRIS' VISIT TO U.S. AT THIS TIME IS ALMOST CERTAINLY TO REASSESS KDP POSTURE IN LIGHT OF PRESENT SITUATION. EMB BELIEVES KDP REMAINS IN CONTACT WITH SUPPORTERS IN IRAQ, THOUGH PERHAPS MORE SPORADICALLY THEN BEFORE).

6. UNLIKE LAST VISIT, ALI-SULAIMAN MADE NO RPT NO ATTEMPT TO PRESS FOR GREATER U.S. ROLE IN SUPPORT OF REBEL KURDS (REF A), OTHER THAN STANDARD PLEA FOR ASSISTANCE. HE NOTED IN PASSING THAT KDP SOURCES IN WASHINGTON FELT U.S. WOULD TAKE BETWEEN 300 AND 600 KURDISH REFUGEES THIS YEAR, AND EXPRESSED KDP'S HOPE HIGHER FIGURE WOULD PROVE CORRECT. WEST GERMANS HAVE INFORMED KDP AND IRANIAN GOVERNMENT THEY ARE PREPARED TO TAKE ADDITIONAL 100 KURDISH REFUGEES INTO GERMANY THIS YEAR. MECHANICS OF PROGRAM REMAIN TO BE WORKED OUT.

7. COMMENT: ALI-SULAIMAN WAS UNUSUALLY FORTHCOMING ON SUBJECTS DISCUSSED, PROBABLY BECAUSE OF FORTHCOMING REQUEST FOR BARZANI VISA. NEVERTHELESS, WOULD APPRECIATE ANY ADDRESSEE

COMMENTS ON ACCURACY OF INFO OFFERED ABOVE, PARTICULARLY INFO  
INTERNAL TO IRAQ.  
SULLIVAN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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